



Governor's Office of
Economic Development
Centers of Excellence

Utah Centers of Excellence Program

Description of Centers Awarded additional Funding in Fiscal 2008-2009 Part B solicitation

The purpose of the Centers of Excellence Program is to accelerate the commercialization of promising technologies that have strategic value for Utah. The end goal of the COE Program is to help drive economic development and job creation.

“Our Job is Jobs”

2008-09 Licensee Grants

After the primary 2008-09 solicitation was over, the COE program still had \$340,000 in funds that were uncommitted. This funding, combined with one contract that was awarded, but not signed by the grant recipient, plus a small amount of funding that was carried in from previous years, a total of \$500,000, was designated to be put to work in a 2008-09 Part B solicitation. This solicitation was limited only to existing 2008-09 Licensee grant recipients, and was designed to help accelerate the progress of the most promising teams.

Of the 22 original teams which were granted awards in 2008-09, one was a university team, which was not eligible for the Part B funding, one declined their contract, and three others were not eligible either due to the total amount of funding they had received from the Centers of Excellence program (in excess of \$500,000 per technology), or had received equity funding in excess of \$2 million. Of the remaining 17, 10 submitted a proposal for the Part B solicitations. Others who did not propose generally did not have sufficient matching funds in place to be received on or before June 30, 2009, a requirement of the Part B solicitation.

2008-09 Part B Selection Process

For the 2008-09 Part B solicitation, the majority of the Members of the COE Advisory Council who participated in the primary 2008-09 solicitation also participated in reviewing the Part B teams. Teams were asked to submit a 2 page proposal demonstrating their progress to date, as well as various letters of support and a summary of key items such as equity and grant funding received to date.

The COE team conducted sub-committee reviews by conference call due to the relatively small number of proposals to review: 2 in Information Technology, 3 in Life Sciences and 5 in Materials/ Manufacturing/Energy/Environment. After each proposal was reviewed by the sub-committee, on Thursday April 16, 2009, the group met in person at the Capitol to do a final review and prioritization.



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Of the 10 proposing teams, 6 teams were recommended to receive awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000 and totaling \$500,000. Four other proposing teams were not recommended for additional funding. In one case this was because the company already had significant revenue from the licensed technology, in the other cases, the Council members were concerned that the companies had not made enough significant commercial progress to warrant further funding.

All licensees are required to provide a 1:1 match in funds from non-loan sources.

Distribution of Grants by University

	Licensees
BYU	1
USU	1
UU	4
Total Supported Teams	6



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Funding Recipients for the
2008-09 Part B Solicitation Centers of Excellence Program

<u>Licensee</u>	<u>(Center -University)</u>	<u>Years Funded to Date</u>	<u>Initial Award Amount</u>
<u>CEO or Principal</u>			
<u>2008-09 Part B Award Amount:</u>			

COSMAS, Inc. (Licensee of Center for the Production of Nanometer Sized Metals, Alloys, Metal Oxides & Mixed-Metal Oxide Powders - BYU)

Lynn Astle, CEO	New as company	\$100,000
\$75,000		

Cosmas, Inc. will commercialize a solid state process to produce a nearly unlimited array of high-quality, well-defined metal oxide, mixed metal oxide, metal and metal alloy nanoparticles. The process is simple, requires comparatively little energy (i.e., low cost) and is easily scalable for production. It produces products up to 99.999% pure, as small as 1 nm, with size distributions of typically $\pm 10\%$. Applications include protective coatings, catalysts, batteries & fuel cells, electronics and ceramics.

GlycoMira, Inc.	(New Licensee – U/U)
Tim Miller, CEO and Thomas P. Kennedy, MD and Glenn D. Prestwich, PhD, Co-founders and Co-inventors	New as company
\$75,000	\$100,000

GlycoMira (“Amazing Sugars”) is a development stage pharmaceutical company targeting the topical treatment of inflammatory skin diseases affecting over 100 million Americans. GlycoMira’s motto is “From Life. For Life.” Our proprietary sulfated compounds are derived from the natural sugar hyaluronic acid to make remarkably potent drugs that block inflammation. Our topical therapeutics have the potential to restore health and quality of life to those suffering from disfiguring diseases such as rosacea, psoriasis, eczema, acne, and actinic keratosis.



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NeuroAdjuvants, Inc.	(New License – U/U)	
Theodore Stanley, M.D., Pres. & CEO	New as company	\$100,000
\$100,000		

NeuroAdjuvants, Inc. will develop and commercialize a proprietary platform technology enabling multiple “first-in-class” neuropeptide-based therapeutics for a wide variety of neurologic and psychiatric disorders. This platform provides a breakthrough ability to harness therapeutic potential of neuropeptides and provides both stability & blood-brain-barrier permeability. The initial focus is to identify novel therapies for pain and epilepsy with future potential applications to other neurologic and psychiatric disorders.

STEDI, LLC	(New License – USU)	
Geoffrey G. Smith (Key contact)	New as company	\$100,000
\$50,000		

STEDI is licensing from Utah State University’s Substitute Teaching Institute a training solution and materials to train substitute teachers. 70% of substitutes in the U.S. are not trained and STEDI provides the only university-based training program for Substitutes. Via the university, STI/USU has sold materials for 13 years, and sales last year were \$900,000. The system currently reaches 900 of the nation’s 16,000 school districts, but only 38 have sales of \$5,000 or more. STEDI, LLC will allow significant expansion of the reach for this system to help train America’s substitute teachers.

Thermimage, Inc.	(New License – U/U)	
Douglas Turnquist, President & CEO	New as company	\$100,000
\$100,000		

Thermimage, Inc. has invented a non-invasive, painless and less costly way to produce deep-tissue temperature measurements. The device will first be used to diagnose Vesicoureteral Reflux (VUR) in children, a dangerous condition that allows urine to backflow into the kidneys of young children. The current procedure is painful and requires the use of catheters and ionizing radiation, where this new technique will heat the bladder contents and then detect any increase in temperature in the kidneys signaling reflux.



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Wastewater Compliance Systems, Inc. (Licensee of Center for Water Treatment Technology -U/U) Fred Jaeger, President 1st Year as Licensee \$100,000 \$100,000

The company addresses the need of wastewater lagoon operators, generally municipalities, who seek to comply with state and federal environmental regulations by improving efficiency and capacity of existing systems without dramatically increasing capital or operating costs. The company provides robust, low cost ways to remove common pollutants such as nitrogen compounds from lagoon systems with a submergible, domed-shaped aeration device that resembles an igloo. The patented "poo-gloo" is simple and inexpensive to build and easy to install and maintain.